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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 36 | Min 24 | Humidity 42% Partly Cloudy Sensex 74,611 | Nifty 22,648 | Gold 70,480 | Silver 79,442 | Dollar 83.46 | Euro 89.19 | GBP 104.25

Commuters talk about close shaves with goods vehicles carrying jutting iron rods, poles, pipes not only in periphery but also in centre of city

AT THE SHARP END

Enforcement agencies look the other way as advisory flouted

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Protruding iron rods, jutting poles and plastic pipes extending far beyond the rear end of goods vehicles continue unchecked on Bengaluru roads.

In 2015, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, in an advisory issued to all states, had instructed strict implementation of the Central Motor Vehicle Rule, which prohibits good carriers from carrying any load that is protruding outside the vehicle.

As per the amendment in the rule brought in 2014, vehicles carrying such loads would be in contravention of the rule, and carrying iron rods and good jutting beyond the body frame is punishable under section 190 (3) of the Motor Vehicle Act of 1988.

Citizens say the rule should be implemented strictly as these vehicles are not just flouting rules, but also posing risk to other motorists.

"I escaped a major accident recently, when a lorry in front of me carrying iron rods, protruding a couple of feet out of the vehicle, applied a sudden brake. I immediately

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

KAUSHIK JN

"There should be a dedicated surveillance team and the Transport Department should spread awareness about the issue among transport operators and lorry/truck drivers

— Motorist

Case file pile

Almost 2 lakh cases pending with Bengaluru Bench of High Court, most of which are civil cases

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According to the latest data by the National Judicial Data Grid, the total number of pending cases at the High Court of Karnataka of the Principal Bench at Bengaluru, stands at 1,98,987.

Of the almost 2 lakh pending cases in the Bengaluru Bench, 1,59,737 are civil cases and 39,250 are criminal cases.

Predominantly, in civil matters, writ petitions constitute the largest proportion at 41.93%, followed by first appeals at 35.98%, and second appeals at 12.48%. Appeals, cases/petitions, revisions, and applications make up the remainder.

In pendency of criminal case matters, applications constitute the largest portion at 47%, followed by appeal at 36%. Revisions account for 15.69% of the total. Cases or petitions make up a smaller fraction at 0.09%, while references represent a minimal percentage at 0.03%.

Long road

Civil cases in the high court have varied durations, with a significant portion spanning between 1 to 10 years. Nearly one-third of cases, approximately 31.91%, have been ongoing for less than a year,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Myth and marvel

Indic mythology is full of answers to the many whys of our culture. Join Lavanya Prasad in a storytelling session, "Mythology Marvels: When Boons Go Wrong...," as she explores and brings forth the marvellous stories from Indian mythology through music, dance, and theatre. This May, in mythology marvels, we explore "Mayhem" in the heavens. Join in and test your knowledge with a quiz from mythology at the end of the session. **When: May 4, 2:30 pm**
Where: Atta Galatta

02 Laugh out loud

Spend an evening of non-stop laughter or a heated debate. Come have a blast as three comedians dive into a world of cinematic comedy chaos to talk about your best and worst movies. Whether you're a cinephile or just enjoy a good flick, you'll love the witty commentary on both beloved classics and cinematic flops.
When: Until May 10; Where: The Art Gully Studio, Koramangala

03 Ukulele tunes

Join in for "Uke Tunes with Arijit," where music meets passion, and discover the joy of bringing Arijit Singh's heartfelt songs to life on your ukulele. Whether you`re a fan of Arijit, a ukulele player looking to expand your repertoire, or a music lover eager to explore, this workshop promises an enriching musical adventure. This session aims to bring the soulful melodies of Arijit`s iconic song "Channa Mereya" to the strings of your ukulele. **When: May 4 to June 22**
Where: My School of Rock, Koramangala

School is in too early and parents are not happy at all

Experts point to financial interest, warn against slashing of holiday period

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Some esteemed schools have opted to commence academic sessions earlier than usual, signalling a departure from the typical summer holiday period. A handful of these schools have already initiated classes as early as the last week of April.

Parents of students in these schools have reported receiving circulars requesting their children's attendance, leading to some discontent among certain parents. The summer break for schools following the state syllabus is scheduled from April 11 to May 28. Meanwhile, schools adhering to CBSE and ICSE curricula have designated their summer break from April 11 to May 26. Despite this, few schools have commenced classes by the end of April, granting students merely a week-long vacation. In Karnataka, there are 17,109 private schools catering to approximately 47.02 lakh students.

Concerns have been raised by some parents, alleging that schools have initiated classes early to expedite fee payments and prevent students from discontinuing their education. D Shashi Kumar, general secretary, Associated Management of Primary and Secondary Schools said that such practices are unlawful, and also held parents accountable for acquiescing to such demands from schools. He stressed that the current education system has transformed into a financially driven model, which requires regulation.

In Karnataka, there are 17,109 private schools catering to approximately 47.02 lakh students

K Naganna Gowda, chairperson of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR), said he had received complaints from parents. He warned that inadequate holidays could diminish students' interest in learning and announced plans to issue notices to schools.

CET row

Meanwhile, Lokesh Talikatte, president of the Recognised Unaided Private Schools Association (RUPSA), has written a letter to Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot, urging immediate action against those responsible for including 51 non-syllabus questions in the CET question paper. "In response to public outrage, a committee was formed to remove these questions and provide just two grace marks for the mathematics subject, a move perceived as an attempt to manage the situation without addressing the root cause." In the letter, Talikatte stressed the need for immediate action against officials involved in this malpractice, especially in the context of CET and NEET exams for PU students following the state syllabus. This breach of exam integrity has created a disruptive environment for students and warrants prompt intervention to rectify the fraudulent activities and restore confidence in the examination system.

> **"The current education system has transformed into a financially driven model, which requires regulation**
> – D Shashi Kumar, KAMS

Moreover, the decision to exclude certain texts from the NEET syllabus raises concerns about the challenges faced by students. Talikatte questions the motives behind these decisions, suggesting the influence of tuition centres could be a factor contributing to discrimination and undue stress on students. "The lack of coordination between KEA and PU board officials is also highlighted as a critical issue affecting the future of millions of students. This lack of cohesion and collaboration must be addressed swiftly to ensure a smoother academic journey for students and uphold the integrity of the education system," he added.

BWSSB to supply treated zero-bacterial water to Wipro daily

3 lakh litres of water will be supplied of water treated using indigenous technology

In a major step towards water conservation and sustainability, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has started supplying tech giant Wipro with three lakh litres of treated water daily from Thursday. The water will be supplied to Wipro from the Agara sewage treatment plant (STP) through tankers, said BWSSB chairman V Ram Prasath Manohar, who has taken overall charge of monitoring the supply. Incidentally, 'zero bacteria' water was made possible due to a collaboration between BWSSB engineers and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Previously, the water from BWSSB's STPs met pollution control board standards but still contained a few bacteria, and people were advised to use it only for flushing and gardening, said Manohar. The BWSSB and IISc worked on an indigenous technology that improves the quality of treated water, which was implemented at Agara, KC Valley and Bellandur STPs, said the chairman. The technology became operational about two weeks ago, he added.

"We have 34 sewage water treatment plants, because of which we have been able to get 1,200 MLD of treated water of very high quality. This will reduce the burden on Cauvery water. Towards this end, the Board's effort to supply treated water for the last two months has received a positive response with IT companies seeking supply of treated water," said Manohar.

According to him, 40 IT parks and companies like Brookefield and Adobe, as well as HAL have expressed their need for zero-bacterial water.

"With this technology, we can produce one crore litres of zero bacteria treated water every day. This can be used for cleaning as well as in air coolers, which was not possible earlier due to negligent bacteria present in treated water. With the increasing demand for the supply of treated water, the board can now save and redistribute Cauvery River water. This will also help to decrease the pressure in groundwater," said Manohar. **– PTI**

Green is their favourite colour

And why won't it be... as these apartment residents have managed to turn their area into tree-laden stretch

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The well-grown trees on Ranka Road, Bilekahalli on Bannerghatta Road are a testimony to the dedication and commitment of residents of apartment complexes nearby. There were no trees on Ranka Road till June 2016 and it looked like a desert. The fully-grown lush canopy of the area right now, is a case study for citizens and environmentalists who want to plant saplings in their areas to increase green cover.

It all happened when some like-minded residents from different apartment complexes came together and decided to do something to plant saplings on Ranka Road. They also decided to involve children and elected representatives in the task. After some deliberations, the residents fixed June 12, 2016, as the date to plant around 50 saplings on Ranka Road. They raised a fund for not only planting but also nurturing the saplings.

"There were no trees here before we planted the saplings. We appealed to residents to sponsor a sapling and one tree guard each. The tree guard had to be a steel round one. Many residents sponsored saplings and tree guards. There was a provision to put up the name of the sponsor on the tree guard. Some residents sponsored saplings and tree guards in memory of their parents. Elected representatives and the forest department also helped us. Around 50 saplings were planted and all of them have survived and have now grown into well-grown trees," said Rajkumar, a resident.

The residents had to put in a lot of effort to realise their dream. They elected a lead volunteer from each of the residential apartment complexes to coordinate with the other residents of the apartment complex. "We took the help of elected representatives who arranged a water tanker to water the saplings during summer. We appealed to the residents' association of all the apartments to look after the saplings planted in front of their societies. They assigned their gardeners to look after the saplings. I am happy to see the saplings are now fully grown trees. We planted some medicinal saplings and those to have grown into trees," said Bhagyalakshmi, a resident, adding that she along with residents want to plant more saplings.

Suresh Prakash, another resident of the area, said that the garden of love is limitless green cover that has infinite benefits in visible and invisible forms. "The habitat changes morning freshness in the air, birds and squirrels chirping around, natural shaded areas with calm prevailing. Key to get the success rate is to nurture and take care of saplings by regular watering and pruning till it evolves into a plant, then a young tree.

We are grateful to mother earth as it gives it all and allows it (trees) to flourish. One simple advice is that people should plant saplings in a systematic manner and take care till it starts evolving. If we can do this, bring this change, everyone can do it, so just do it," said Suresh.

In High Court: 'Go hang yourself' not necessarily abetment of suicide

Karnataka High Court has declined to categorise the statement 'go hang yourself' as abetment of suicide.

Justice M Nagaprasanna addressed the complexity of determining abetment of suicide in cases involving contentious statements.

The recent ruling stemmed from a petition involving allegations of abetment of suicide against a man in connection with the death of a priest in a church in Udupi in coastal Karnataka.

The petitioner was accused of triggering the priest's suicide by allegedly urging him to "go hang himself" during a conversation about the priest's alleged relationship with the petitioner's wife. The defence counsel argued that the statement was made out of anguish upon discovering the alleged affair, and the priest's decision to end his life was influenced by the affair becoming known to others, rather than solely by the accused's words.

The opposing counsel contended that the priest took his own life due to the accused's threatening language about exposing the affair. However,

the single judge bench, drawing on precedents set by the Supreme Court, emphasised that such statements alone might not constitute abetment to suicide.

Bitcoin scam: No bail to cops

The Karnataka High Court has refused to grant anticipatory bail to a police inspector and Deputy Superintendent of Police, who are among the accused in the Bitcoin scam case.

The bail petitions of inspector Chandradhara S R and Deputy Superintendent of Police Shridhar K Pujar, who are accused number three and five respectively in the case were earlier rejected by a sessions court.

Justice Rajendra Badamikar, delivering the verdict, highlighted concerns about potential manipulation of records and destruction of evidence, given the positions held by the petitioners.

He emphasised that the allegations included attempts to destroy evidence, making their bail petitions devoid of merit. **PTI**

Hot, burning mess in Ullal

Workers at under-construction sites and rig-mounted vehicles main culprits of garbage burning; citizens and activists urge for greater awareness

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The burning of garbage has become a nuisance in and around the Ullal ward due to various reasons. Despite efforts by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Solid Waste Management Department to reduce garbage burning incidents through punitive measures, the burning of garbage persists, particularly among workers at under-construction buildings and those attached to drilling rig-mounted vehicles.

Keeping vigilance on those burning garbage has become a herculean task for law-abiding citizens, environmentalists, and BBMP Solid Waste Management authorities. With construction activities in full swing in and around Ullal, workers at such buildings often resort to burning garbage because they lack knowledge about proper disposal methods.

Additionally, some trucks mounted with drilling rigs are parked at vacant sites. Workers attached to these trucks often cook food at these spots, leading to the accumulation of garbage. Recently, Gowdaiah, an environmental activist, encountered individuals burning garbage attached to a drilling rig-mounted truck. Despite his attempts to create awareness and discourage the practice, his efforts were in vain.

"I come across similar incidents on a daily basis. There are some incidents where pourakarmikas themselves burn waste. I have been alerting the BBMP Solid Waste Management officers through social media about burning waste in open places. I am of the opinion that the BBMP authorities have to take stringent action against those burning waste. Imposing only a penalty will not deter them from burning waste," said Gowdaiah, an environmental activist.

Blaming the BBMP Solid Waste Management Department for the lack of awareness among the residents on waste management, Marudachala Murthy, a resident of Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, suggested that the BBMP authorities paste flyers or pamphlets on the main doors of the buildings to inform the residents about the importance of segregating waste and handing it to pourakarmikas when they come to collect garbage from door to door. "The success of managing waste depends on how punctual the pourakarmikas are. What is the use of pourakarmikas visiting houses after the inmates leave for work? The inmates do not like waste accumulating in their homes. So, they try to dump or burn garbage at open places," Murthy asked.

"Lack of awareness on waste management will lead to the creation of more black spots on the roads – Marudachala Murthy, resident, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar

He suggested to the BBMP Solid Waste Management authorities to focus not only on penalizing the public but also on creating awareness among them on managing waste. "Lack of awareness on waste management will lead to the creation of more black spots on the roads," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Solid Waste Management Junior Health Inspector Vinay D said that he collected Rs 1,000 as a penalty from the owner of the drilling rig-mounted truck for burning waste. "I have also provided the contact number of the garbage auto tipper to hand over accumulated waste. I advised them not to burn waste. They can contact the garbage auto tipper driver for disposal of waste in the future. I visited buildings under construction and advised the people, especially those staying on the construction site, not to burn waste," said Vinay.

Measures led to no use, garbage black spots continue to persist

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Residents of New Timber Layout, particularly those near Gali Anjaneya Temple ward (157), continue to face a severe garbage crisis despite efforts by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to manage solid waste. The area is marred by persistent garbage black spots and open burning of waste, leading to environmental and health concerns for the community.

Despite significant allocations by the BBMP for solid waste management (SWM), the residents lament that little has improved. They point out that door-to-door segregation remains ineffective, allowing indiscriminate dumping of garbage to persist. Furthermore, strict measures against those responsible for littering are lacking, exacerbating the problem.

Shruti, a resident, expressed her frustration, highlighting the variety of waste dumped at the spot, including meat waste from nearby chicken shops. Despite repeated pleas to BBMP officials

Strict measures against those responsible for littering are lacking, exacerbating the problem

Garbage dumped near New Timber Layout

for action, including requests for footpaths and fencing to maintain cleanliness and provide pedestrians with designated walkways, no tangible progress has been made.

Even efforts to address the issue through the deployment of SWM marshals have been met with resistance, with reports of assault when attempting to deter individuals from littering. Junior health inspectors in the ward say that while the BBMP conducts regular garbage pickups, residents continue to dump waste daily, perpetuating the problem.

In response to the escalating crisis, Lalithamba BV, Governing Council Member and Zonal Leader of the Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) Bommanahalli, emphasised the BBMP's responsibility to address the issue promptly. Mere claims of daily garbage clearance are inadequate if black spots persist and waste continues to accumulate. She urged the relevant department to understand the root causes of such spots and ensure efficient doorstep collection and overall cleanliness.

Furthermore, Lalithamba proposed the implementation of surveillance measures such as CCTV cameras to monitor areas prone to illegal dumping and strict penalties for violators. Such measures, she argued, are necessary to curb the problem effectively and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Flamed mess
Austin Town

There is a recurring issue of garbage burning opposite Nandhan Football Ground despite numerous complaints.

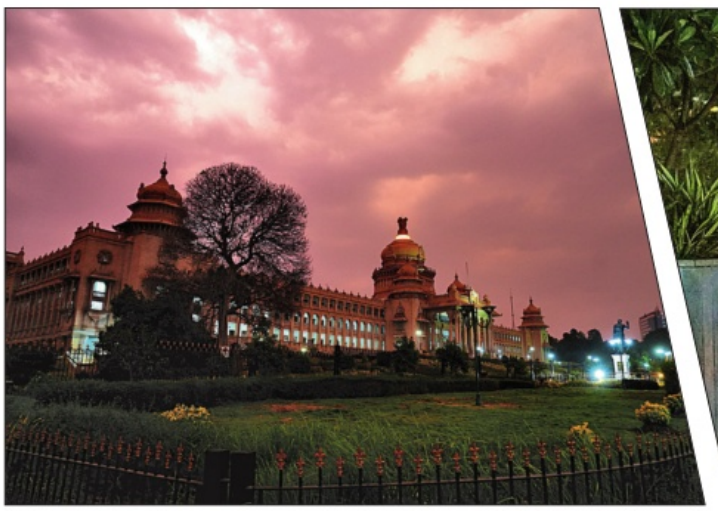
Dusty everywhere
Hoysala Nagar

Despite drilling a borewell, the BBMP has failed to clear the stone dust for over two weeks between the 5th and 6th Cross at Hoysala Nagar, Ramamurthynagar.

Wheel clutter
Austin Town

Vehicles are being dumped at the BDA complex, causing clutter and congestion.

PICS: KAUSHIK JN



Slippery slope

Wet wet wet

Clouds gathered in the sky in the evening on Thursday and the city got a spell of rain; many were caught unawares, but almost all were just relieved

At long last, heavens open up

Rain provides brief relief from sweltering heat; social media abuzz, streets alive

KAUSHIK JN

A person clicks pictures of the rain on Thursday

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Thursday evening saw #BengaluruRains as the trending topic on Platform X. It was indeed a special day for many, as they took to social media to express their joy about the first rainfall of the calendar year in the city, although there had been sporadic rain before this. The last recorded rainfall by IMD was officially on November 22, 2023. Unfortunately, the rain was short-lived in a few places, disappointing many who were hoping for a prolonged spell of rainfall. It also brought about 'darkness' as BESCOM reported power interruptions due to the 66/11 KV Banaswadi MUSS feeders tripping because of heavy rain and wind. This interruption served as a reminder of the challenges faced during the monsoon season, highlighting the need for robust infrastructure to handle such situations effectively. Despite being brief, it served as a welcome relief for residents amidst the sweltering heat and dry spell.

IMD scientist A Rajavel said, "Looking ahead, a detailed forecast and thunderstorm warning have been issued for Karnataka over the next seven days: On May 6, light rain is likely in parts of Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Kodagu, Chikkamagaluru, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Urban and Rural, Kolar, and Chikkaballapura districts. On May 7, light to moderate rain is forecast for areas of Kodagu, Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Mandya, and Ramanagara districts. Light rain may also occur in parts of various other districts, while dry weather is expected elsewhere. May 8 may witness light rain in specific areas of several districts, with dry conditions prevailing in others." He said that in addition to the weather forecast, there is a heat wave warning in effect for several districts across multiple days. Bengaluru Urban is expected to witness heat wave conditions along with Belagavi, Bidar, Dharwad, Gadag, Kalaburgi, Haveri, Koppal, Raichur, Yadgir, Ballari, Chamarajanagar, Chikkaballapura, Chitradurga, Davangere, Tumakuru, Mandya, and Mysuru till May 6. Coastal Karnataka is likely to experience warm nights for the next four days, with South Interior Karnataka joining in for the first two days. Coastal Karnataka can expect hot and humid conditions for the next five days. Over the next five days, there is no significant change in the maximum temperature anticipated across the state. These weather updates aim to provide residents and authorities with crucial information to plan and prepare accordingly, he added.

> **Developing & implementing comprehensive emergency response plans specific to rainfall events is essential**
>
> –Likith BN, a professional

Likith BN, a professional, said, "The rains will continue for now and may intensify during the monsoon period. So, it's time for BBMP to take several preventive measures to mitigate potential risks and ensure the safety and well-being of residents. BBMP claims that it has been doing regular maintenance and cleaning of drainage systems, including stormwater drains, gutters, and culverts, which are crucial to prevent waterlogging and flooding in urban areas. They need to expedite the removal of debris, silt, and other obstructions from drainage channels to ensure smooth water flow during heavy rainfall. BBMP engineers should conduct regular inspections of infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and culverts to identify any damages that may exacerbate flooding or pose hazards during rainfall."

...Meanwhile, we got busy buying ACs

Bengaluru, known for its pleasant climate, was often deemed an "air-conditioned" city. However, this year has witnessed a stark change as temperatures soared to record highs. Consequently, in a city where air conditioners were not previously a standard, there's now a notable surge in AC sales.

Raj Nanda, a businessman, said, "The scorching heat benefits AC manufacturers and retailers, with sales gaining significant momentum as early as April's first week. City retailers report a nearly 50 per cent increase in AC sales compared to the same period last year. ACs of varying capacities are in demand, particularly 1.5-tonne units with three stars or more. This surge has led to manufacturers pausing dealerships due to overwhelming demand, causing delays in order fulfilment. Meanwhile, smaller brands struggle to keep up with the market's pace. The demand for air coolers has also risen, offering a cheaper alternative suitable for families in rental accommodations."

Historically, AC sales typically surged in May but shifted to mid-May or even April's end. This year, however, demand spiked by March end as people anticipated hotter weather, sustaining sales into May.

An official said, "The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) label on the AC provides essential information for consumers to make informed decisions about their air conditioning units. This includes details such as the star rating period. Additionally, the label contains technical information like the approximate energy consumption per year and the cooling capacity of the AC. Furthermore, each brand is assigned a unique series code by BEE, which can be verified on their website to check for duplication."

Sources said that the efficiency parameters are crucial in determining the accuracy of the star rating for an AC. "To use your AC efficiently and reduce energy consumption, several tips can be followed such as regular cleaning of AC filter, adjusting the temperature setting to a range of 24 to 26 °C. It's also advisable to schedule regular servicing by a technician twice a year to maintain optimal performance," added an official.

—BMB

Subsidised canteens on the horizon for KFD field staff

Karnataka Forest Department frontline staff may soon access subsidised canteen facilities, easing financial burdens, as proposed by wildlife conservationists

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Subsidised canteen facilities might soon become a reality for the field staff of the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), following a proposal submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) to the Head of Forest Force, KFD. "Field staff below the rank of Range Forest Officers should be able to avail subsidised canteen facilities. The facility can be extended to KFD personnel on the model of police canteen," stated the proposal by PCCF, Wildlife.

This initiative came after a city-based wildlife conservationist submitted a letter of appeal to the Karnataka Forest Minister, highlighting the need for canteen facilities for forest personnel.

According to Giridhar Kulkarni, the wildlife conservationist who submitted the letter, the frontline staff of the forest department have the toughest job. They not only defend wildlife from being hunted but also play a crucial role in overall conservation, and their presence is essential in protecting forest areas. However, they are poorly paid and ill-equipped compared to other departments.

"Apart from poor working conditions and meagre infrastructure, one aspect that puts these brave hearts at a great disadvantage is the absence of canteen facilities where they can buy groceries and other household goods at subsidised rates. Due to the pay scale of frontline staff of the Department not being at par with other departments, there have been repeated demands to revise their pay scale, which have not materialised. Furthermore, the soaring prices of fuel, LPG, vegetable oils, pulses, and other groceries have put them in a miserable situation. If approved, the proposal will bring much-needed respite for them," said Kulkarni.

Karnataka Forest Department field staff on duty

> "One aspect that puts these brave hearts at a great disadvantage is the absence of canteen facilities where they can buy groceries & other household goods at subsidised rates
> – Giridhar Kulkarni, wildlife conservationist

While the construction of exclusive canteens for forest personnel would require a huge investment by the State Government, only a fraction of that would suffice if they are permitted to use facilities of the already established Police Canteens, suggests Kulkarni.

"A small expenditure may be required for issuing identity cards, purchase of stationery items, etc., and running capital for enabling the KFD's frontline staff to avail the facilities of police canteens,"Kulkarni said.

He further added, "If adopted, the scheme will demonstrate the value that the government places on the well-being of its forest staff and their commitment to forest and wildlife conservation,"

Goods vehicles' cover blown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

stopped my vehicle as I was paying attention. In case if the driver is caught unaware, it could lead to fatal accidents," said Priya Verma, a resident of Yelahanka.

Citizens say the rule should be enforced by the Transport Department and traffic police. However, these carriers ply freely on city roads, in the absence of any checks.

"I have witnessed these carriers not just on arterial roads but also city centre. This implies weak enforcement actions. There should be a dedicated surveillance team and the Transport Department should spread awareness about the issue among transport operators and lorry/truck drivers," said a motorist.

Motorists also underline lorries and trucks with uncovered construction material often seen plying on city roads.

Dusty rides

As per guidelines about dust mitigation measures in handling construction material by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), trucks and lorries ferrying construction material should not be overloaded to avoid overflow of material during transportation. Transportation of materials that are easily wind-borne should be done in vehicles covered by a sheet made of jute, tarpaulin, plastic, or any other effective material to prevent fugitive dust emission.

According to a city-based air quality expert, these guidelines are rarely followed, leading to higher concentrations of particulate matter in the environment, and deteriorating air quality.

"It is important to follow CPCB's regulations when it comes to vehicles ferrying construction material. Wind-blown dust from these vehicles increases PM 10 concentration. I have seen umpteen numbers of times these vehicles plying without any cover on their dusty wares. Enforcement agencies should be more vigilant," said the expert.

Cases pending in HC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

while around 25.93% have lasted between 1 and 3 years. A notable portion, approximately 22.02%, has extended from 5 to 10 years. Moreover, there are cases that have endured even longer, with 7.04% persisting between 10 to 20 years. Cases taking more than 20 years to conclude are comparatively rare, with only 0.14% lasting between 20 to 30 years, and a mere 0.01% exceeding 30 years.

Over the years, a significant number of criminal cases have remained pending in the legal system. Among these, approximately 36.42% have been unresolved for less than a year, while 28.60% have lingered for one to three years. Additionally, 13.50% of cases have been going on for three to five years, with 19.17% stretching between five to ten years. A smaller proportion, around 2.30%, has persisted for 10 to 20 years. And only 0.01% have surpassed the two-decade mark.

"The High Court's disposal rate has increased over the years, but the slow legal process has led to piling up of pending cases as well. The legal procedure might be slow in certain cases and sometimes it takes a lot of time to get a matter listed in the High Court itself. Apart from this, the number of advocates practising in the courts is considerably low as compared to the number of cases. These two are the major reasons for high pending cases in higher courts and lower courts," advocate Supriya Mehta said.

Bengaluru leads in fresh graduate hiring: Survey

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In a recent survey conducted by TeamLease EdTech, promising prospects emerge for fresh graduates seeking job opportunities, especially in cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Chennai. These cities have shown a strong intent to hire more fresh graduates during the first half of the year, with Bengaluru leading the pack at an impressive 69 per cent hiring intent. This marks a marginal improvement from the previous half-year, indicating a positive trend in fresher recruitment across these metropolitan areas.

The survey delves deeper into the industries driving this hiring surge, with E-commerce & Technology Start-ups, Engineering & Infrastructure, and Telecommunications emerging as the top three sectors with the highest hiring intent for freshers, standing at 55 per cent, 53 per cent, and 50 per cent respectively. Roles such as Graphic Designer, Legal Associate, Chemical Engineer, and Digital Marketing Executive are in high demand across these industries, offering diverse opportunities for fresh graduates to kick-start their careers.

Furthermore, the report sheds light on the demand for degree apprenticeships, with manufacturing, Engineering & Infrastructure, and Construction & Real Estate industries leading the way. Interestingly, Bengaluru, Chennai, and Mumbai are the top cities intending to hire degree apprentices, underscoring the importance of these metropolitan hubs in fostering skill development and employment opportunities for young professionals. Highlighting the key domain skills sought after by employers, the report identifies data science, content creation, stack development, robotic process automation (RPA), UI/UX design, blockchain, metaverse, natural language processing, mobile app development, and Internet of Things (IoT) as the top 10 in-demand skills for freshers.

These skills reflect the evolving landscape of industries and the need for talent equipped with cutting-edge capabilities.

Shantanu Rooj, Founder and CEO of TeamLease EdTech, emphasises Bengaluru's status as a startup hub, particularly in the tech space, where 69 per cent of employers express an intent to hire freshers. He highlights the importance of aligning higher education curricula with market demands to enhance student outcomes and employability, suggesting that these insights serve as a valuable roadmap for both students and educational institutions.

Overall, the survey findings provide a comprehensive overview of the job market landscape for fresh graduates, offering valuable insights into emerging career trends, industry demands, and skill requirements.

HEALTH TIP: Glycolic acid is an efficacious exfoliant that helps hinder these clogs and reduce the jeopardy of acne breakouts

Application of coconut oil to damp skin after showering can keep skin moisturised

DO WE REALLY NEED TO BURP BABIES?

Here's what the research says

Parents are often advised to burp their babies after feeding them. Some people think burping after feeding is important to reduce or prevent discomfort crying, or to reduce how much a baby regurgitates milk after a feed.

It is true babies, like adults, swallow air when they eat. Burping releases this air from the top part of our digestive tracts. So when a baby cries after a feed, many assume it's because the child needs to "be burped". However, this is not necessarily true.

Why do babies cry or 'spit up' after a feed?

Babies cry for a whole host of reasons that have nothing to do with "trapped air".

They cry when they are hungry, cold, hot, scared, tired, lonely, overwhelmed, needing adult help to calm, in discomfort or pain, or for no identifiable reason. In fact, we have a name for crying with no known cause; it's called "colic".

"Spitting up" – where a baby gently regurgitates a bit of milk after a feed – is common because the muscle at the top of a newborn baby's stomach is not fully mature. This means what goes down can all too easily go back up.

Spitting up frequently happens when a baby's stomach is very full, there is pressure on their tummy or they are picked up after lying down.

Spitting up after feeding decreases as babies get older. Three-quarters of babies one month old spit up after feeding at least once a day. Only half of babies still spit up at five months and almost all (96%) stop by their first birthdays.

Does burping help reduce crying or spitting up?

Despite parents being advised to burp their babies, there's not much research evidence on the topic.

One study conducted in India encouraged caregivers of 35 newborns to burp their babies, while caregivers of 36 newborns were not given any information about burping.

For the next three months, mothers and caregivers recorded whether their baby would spit up after feeding and whether they showed signs of intense crying.

This study found burping did not reduce crying and actually increased spitting up.

When should I be concerned about spitting up or crying?

Most crying and spitting up is normal. However, these behaviours are not: refusing to feed vomiting so much milk weight gain is slow coughing or wheezing distress while feeding bloody vomit. If your baby has any of these symptoms, see a doctor or child health nurse.

If your baby seems unbothered by vomiting and does not have any other symptoms it is a laundry problem rather than something that needs medical attention.

It is also normal for babies to cry and fuss quite a lot; two hours a day, for about the first six weeks is the average.

This has usually reduced to about one hour a day by the time they are three months of age.

Crying more than this doesn't necessarily mean there is something wrong. The intense, inconsolable crying of colic is experienced by up to one-quarter of young babies but goes away with time on its own .

If your baby is crying more than average or if you are worried there might be something wrong, you should see your doctor or child health nurse.

Not everyone burps their baby

Burping babies seems to be traditional practice in some parts of the world and not in others.

For example, research in Indonesia found most breastfeeding mothers rarely or never burped their babies after feeding.

One factor that may influence whether a culture encourages burping babies may be related to another aspect of infant care: how much babies are carried.

Carrying a baby in a sling or baby carrier can reduce the amount of time babies cry.

Babies who are carried upright on their mother or another caregiver's front undoubtedly find comfort in that closeness and movement.

Babies in slings are also being held firmly and upright, which would help any swallowed air to rise up and escape via a burp if needed.

Using slings can make caring for a baby easier. Studies (including randomised controlled trials) have also shown women have lower rates of post-natal depression and breastfeed for longer when they use a baby sling.

It is important baby carriers and slings are used safely, so make sure you're up to date on the latest advice on how to do it.

So, should I burp my baby?

The bottom line is: it's up to you.

Gently burping a baby is not harmful. If you feel burping is helpful to your baby, then keep doing what you're doing.

If trying to burp your baby after every feed is stressing you or your baby out, then you don't have to keep doing it.

(By Karleen Gribble, Western Sydney University and Nina Jane Chad, University of Sydney, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Men at high risk of early death, women face more poor health: Lancet study

Men are at higher risk of premature death than women, but females tend to spend more of their lifetime in poor health, according to a new global study published in the journal Lancet Public Health on Thursday.

The findings, based on data from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 to compare the total number of life years lost to illness and premature death, reveal stark differences between females and males across the 20 leading causes of disease burden over the past 30 years. It also underscores the need for gender-responsive approaches to health.

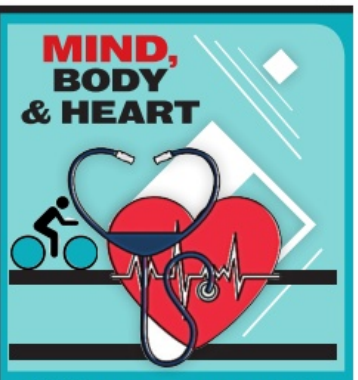
Musculoskeletal conditions, mental health conditions, and headache disorders, which though non-fatal lead to poor health, were found to be more prevalent among women. These conditions increase with age and as women tend to live longer than males, they face higher levels of illness and disability throughout their lives.

On the other hand, men were found to be affected by Covid-19, road injuries, cardiovascular diseases, and respiratory and liver diseases -- all leading to their premature death.

"One key point the study highlights is how females and males differ in many biological and social factors that fluctuate and, sometimes, accumulate over time, resulting in them experiencing health and disease differently at each stage of life and across world regions," said Luisa Sorio Flor at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), University of Washington, US.

"The challenge now is to design, implement, and evaluate sex- and gender-informed ways of preventing and treating the major causes of morbidity and premature mortality from an early age and across diverse populations," Dr Luisa added.

Ischaemic heart disease, lung cancer, and chronic kidney disease, sex differences tend to affect men at young ages and widen over the life course. Covid, the leading cause of health loss in 2021, affected 45 per cent more men than females. — IANS



All you need to know about...

Hair care rituals

Gentle Shampoo Application
Massage gently into the scalp: When shampooing, use your fingertips to massage the product gently into the scalp. Avoid aggressive rubbing to prevent damage.

Rinse without rubbing
Allow water to flow through the length of your hair naturally when rinsing, avoiding vigorous rubbing to minimise friction and prevent breakage.

Essential Conditioning
Use conditioner after every shampoo: Apply conditioner after every shampoo session to restore moisture, prevent damage, and improve overall hair texture.

Recommendations for Swimmers:
Wear a swim cap for protection: Create a barrier between your hair and pool chemicals by using a swim cap.
Rinse hair immediately after swimming: Promptly rinse your hair after swimming to remove chlorine and other pool chemicals.
Use specialised swimmers' products: Counteract chlorine damage with specially formulated shampoos and conditioners designed for swimmers.

Towel Drying Techniques
Wrap hair in a towel: Gently wrap your hair in a towel to absorb excess water without causing friction.
Allow air drying: Opt for air drying whenever possible to minimise exposure to heat, promoting optimal hair health. For straight hair, allow it to dry slightly before gently combing with a wide-tooth comb to prevent breakage. For textured or curly hair, comb while damp using a wide-tooth comb to avoid damaging curls and maintain definition.

—Dr Akber Aimer for Femina

Fishing vessel stranded on shore rescued in prompt operation

A fishing expedition turned into a harrowing ordeal as a vessel, setting sail from Malpe fishing port in Udupi, veered off course and became marooned on a beach 30 kilometres from its place of origin and a few nautical miles off the intended route.

The fishermen who were part of the rescue operation said the incident unfolded when the vessel, manned by a crew of seven seasoned fishermen, embarked from Malpe port at the stroke of midnight on April 30. Tragically, the helmsman succumbed to exhaustion, inadvertently causing a critical navigational lapse that sent the boat adrift from its intended trajectory.

Initial reports indicated that fatigue gripped the entire crew shortly after their departure from Malpe. By the break of dawn on May 1, the vessel had unexpectedly run aground at Beejadi beach, approximately 30 kilometres north of its departure point, startling both locals and passersby.

Subsequent analysis showed that the owner of the vessel was a resident of Kodibengre who had partnered with six or seven other people.

There was conjecture that bad weather, marked by strong gusts, had something to do with the ship's veering off course. **PTI**

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Divya Iyer, C/o Shekar Ramamurthi Residing at No 03, Second Floor (Second House), A Narayanapura Main Road, A Narayanapura, Bangalore, 560016, have changed my name from Divya Iyer to Vasudev Giorno Panicker vide affidavit dated 03-02-2024 Sworn Before Notary K Venkateshan, Bangalore. Henceforth, I shall be known as Vasudev Giorno Panicker only.

I, Rakshith Prithvi S/o. V Suresh, residing at No. 157, 7th A Main, 16th Cross, J.P Nagar 4th Phase, Bangalore South, J.P Nagar, Bangalore-560078, declaring that Rakshith Prithvi and S Prithviraj both names are one and belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 02.04.2024, sworn before notary Mohammed Hussain K, Bangalore.

I, RANIMOL, aged about 37 years, W/o. Vadivel.J R/at #754, 4th Cross, 3rd Main, Vinobha Nagar, K.G.Halli, Arabic College Post, Bengaluru 560045, have changed my name from RANIMOL to RAMYA SHALINI, vide Affidavit Dated: 18/04/2024, sworn before Notary S.I.BALAGURU, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

I Sanjana Kashikar D/O, Bhalachandra R Kashikar R/o #1097, Sita Raghuram Building, 18th Cross, Near Vidyagiri Layout, Chandralayout 1st Stage, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore - 560072 have changed my name to Sanjana Bhalachandra Kashikar.

I, Basanagouda r/o No.68, 2nd Floor, 1st Main Road, Next To Kaveri School, Vivekananda Nagar, Kathriguppe, B'luru-560085 have changed my name to Basanagouda Patil for all Purposes.

I, Harish Kumar V R/o 131, Gr Nilaya, 5th Cross, Varanasi Main Road, Chikkaramaiah Layout, Kr Puram, Bengaluru 560036 have changed my minor daughter's name from Naiyana to Nayana H.

I G.I.Krishna Sreedhar R/o #205, United daffodil Apartment, BMA college road, Opp.Vibgyor School, Doddanekundi, Bengaluru-560037 have changed name to Krishna Sreedhar

I Zabiulla Khan Arifulla Khan S/o Arif Ulla Khan R/o No 9/1 6th Cross, Shammanna Garden Mysore Road Bangalore-560026 have changed my name to Zabi Ulla Khan for all purposes.

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‘They wanted power, will go to any extent’

Rahul Gandhi lashes out at Modi for ‘letting Prajwal Revanna go to Germany’

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi over JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna from Hassan Lok Sabha Constituency, who is facing a SIT probe over allegations of sexual abuse. He alleged that PM Modi let him go to Germany despite being in power at the Centre.

“They needed an alliance, wanted power and so could go to any extent. They have machinery, intelligence, customs and everything, but still, PM Modi let this mass rapist go to Germany. This is his guarantee,” he said during a public meeting in Shivamogga, Karnataka.

Calling Prajwal Revanna a “mass rapist”, Rahul Gandhi alleged that the PM insulted every woman in the country by campaigning for the JD(S) MP.

“Prajwal Revanna is a mass rapist. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was seeking votes for him from the stage in Karnataka, thus supporting that mass rapist. The prime minister should apologise to every woman in the nation for insulting them. This news (allegations of sexual abuse) has spread worldwide that the PM has sought votes for a mass rapist,” alleged Rahul Gandhi at a poll rally.

Gandhi said a BJP leader wrote a letter to Shah stating that Prajwal was raping women but no action was taken.

“If Amit Shah knew this, then the Prime Minister also knew it. Why is Modi protecting him (Prajwal), why is he promoting him and why is he seeking votes for him,” the Congress leader asked.

The Congress leader also said that Shah allowed Prajwal to flee the country despite knowing about him. A case should be filed against Shah because, among the victims, there were minor girls below the age of 16 years, Gandhi claimed.

“All the agencies were with them, such as CBI, Customs, Immigration and the ED. The PM knew about it, he could have arrested him in a second, which he did not do and allowed him to flee,” Gandhi charged.

Calling Prajwal Revanna a ‘mass rapist’, Rahul said the PM insulted women by campaigning for the JD(S) MP

“The women of Karnataka know that you protected Prajwal Revanna because you wanted power and alliance. The PM and HM, the two people who control the nation, protected him,” the former Congress president alleged.

“This is the difference between our and their (BJP) ideology. They can do anything for power. There is no limit. There is no meaning to the pains and sufferings of women,” he said.

Gandhi said Modi has to answer to every woman in the country, why he protected Prajwal and why he was allowed to flee the country.

He said the Prime Minister now fears visiting Karnataka and claimed:”He (Modi) has cancelled all the meetings and escaped.” “Dear Prime Minister, don’t run away from Karnataka. Come here and tell the country about Prajwal Revanna,” Gandhi said. **—Agencies**

Lookout notice issued for Prajwal

A day after Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna’s request for additional time to appear before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) regarding the alleged sexual assault case, Home Minister G Parameshwara hinted at the potential arrest of the JD(S) legislator if he fails to comply with the questioning. Parameshwara said, “A lookout notice has been issued. It has been communicated that he (Prajwal Revanna) must appear before the SIT. Both he and HD Revanna must appear as per the notice. Failure to comply will result in their arrest.”

This development transpired after Prajwal sought an extension to appear before the investigation team due to his absence in Bengaluru. He communicated this through his advocate, expressing confidence that the truth will emerge soon.

Revanna faced charges in an alleged sexual harassment case registered on April 28, based on complaints from his former housekeeper. The case involved sections 354A, 354D, 506, and 509 of the IPC, covering sexual harassment, intimidation, and outraging the dignity of a woman. Allegations include sexual assault by Prajwal Revanna and his father HD Revanna, who is the grandson of party supremo and former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda.

“I am aware of the notice issued; I am prepared to face the consequences and cooperate with the SIT,” remarked HD Revanna, who is also implicated in the case.

Meanwhile, political debates have intensified in the state over the case.

Amidst these developments, sources revealed that Prajwal, is expected to arrive in Bengaluru on May 15 midnight, following his request for time before the SIT. However, the SIT’s response to his request remains pending as he was anticipated to return from Frankfurt on Friday.

In another turn of events, Karthik, the former driver of accused Prajwal Revanna, who confessed to providing a pen drive containing videos of the JD(S) leader’s alleged misconduct to BJP leader Devaraje Gowda, has gone missing after receiving a notice from the SIT. Karthik, who had a 13-year tenure with Prajwal, parted ways over an alleged land deal disagreement a year ago.

Prajwal and HD Revanna must appear before SIT else they may have to face arrest

Former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy hinted at influential figures being involved in Karthik’s disappearance, alluding to Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar. However, Shivakumar dismissed the claim and urged a focus on the primary issue at hand. **BMB**

Prajwal travelled on diplomatic passport, no political clearance was sought: MEA

Suspended JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna travelled to Germany on a diplomatic passport and he did not seek political clearance for the trip, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday amid an escalating political row over his alleged sexual harassment of several women.

On Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah’s demand for revocation of Revanna’s diplomatic passport, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said such action can be taken only on the directions of a court.

“No political clearance was either sought from or issued by MEA in respect of the travel of the said MP to Germany,” Jaiswal said at his weekly media briefing while replying to a volley of questions on the MP’s reported travel to Germany.

“Obviously, no visa note was issued either. No visa is required for diplomatic passport holders to travel to Germany. The Ministry has not issued visa notes for any other country,” the MEA spokesperson said.

Asked about whether the MEA may consider revocation of his passport in view of the allegations of sexual harassment, Jaiswal did not give a direct reply. “As regards the possible revocation of the passport of any individual, I would refer you to the relevant provisions of the Passport Act 1967. A direction should come from a court for revocation of passport. We are not in receipt of any directions from any court,” he said. **PTI**

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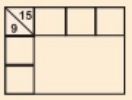
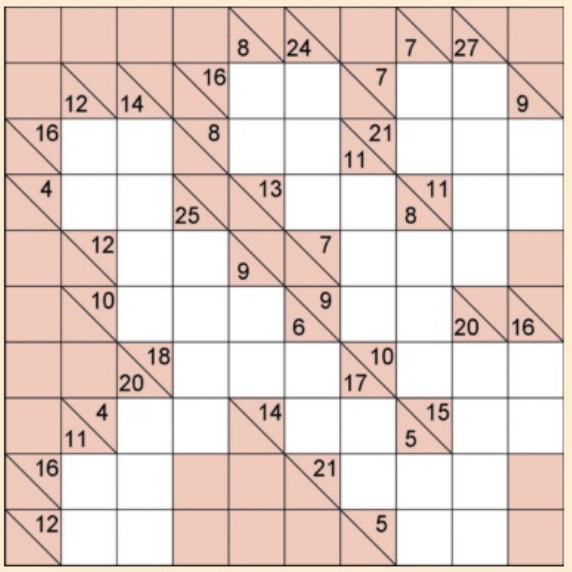
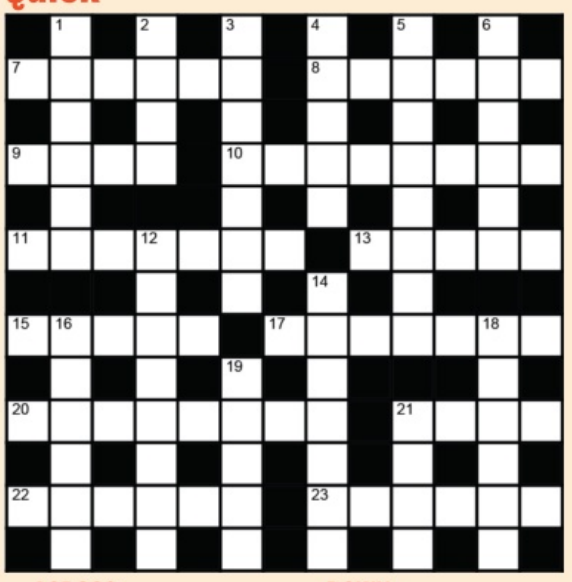
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Place a bet (6)
8 Joined together (6)
9 Melody (4)
10 Ready to resist and fight? (2,2,4)
11 Centre-piece for folk dancing (7)
13 Rolls or catalogues (5)
15 Lively (5)
17 Politeness, wholesomeness or civility (7)
20 Hawaiian capital (8)
21 Region (4)
22 Linear extent (6)
23 Leg jewellery (6)

DOWN

1 Vedic god (6)
2 Accomplished (4)
3 Follow-ups of stories or novels (7)
4 Moral values (5)
5 Bloodsucker (8)
6 Curtain drapery (6)
12 Hit tunes (3,5)
14 Rejection (7)
16 Pressed (6)
18 A horse chestnut (6)
19 Should (5)
21 Middle Eastern restaurant on Coles Road (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS T

PM CT KTRTUPV VTNAK VMJUX QK KMHTPQHTK ZNA HMAT GWTTAZJS NUB WMLTZJS PWNU PM CT ZMAPV VTNAK MSB.

Linemaro

I'm not trying to impress you, but I own this high-rise building

Mindchow

Hardship often prepares an ordinary man for an extraordinary destiny

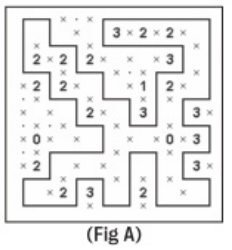
Joke of the day

Confidence is what you have before you understand the problem

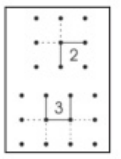
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

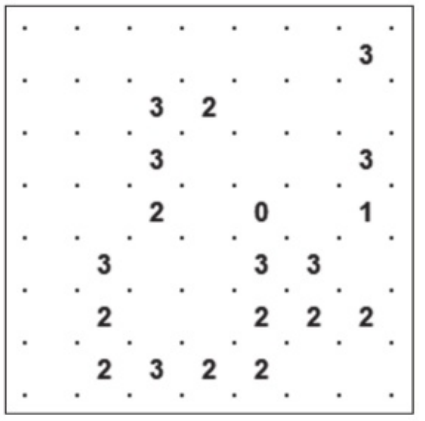


(Fig B) Not Allowed

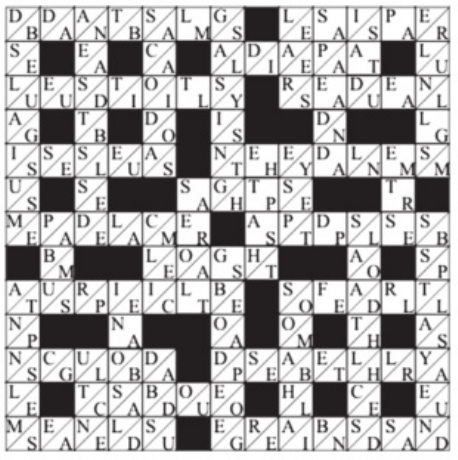
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set....

1 W	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Hewer; 6 Laxer;
7 I a mum; 8 Antes;
9 Get El

DOWN

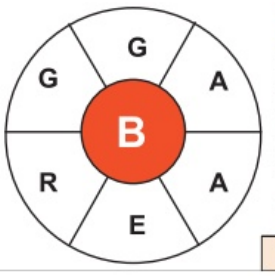
1 Rung W; 2 Lam he;
3 At lee; 4 Ameer;
5 Exits

Mensapuzzle

What group of letters comes next?

A, AB, ABD, ABDG, ABDGK, ??????

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; **07** Good; **09** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

9	5	1		4		8		
				1				3
			7				1	5
						9		7
	7		4	8	5		6	
2		6						
1	8				3			
6				5				
		2		6		7	5	8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 16
3 4 4 5

Medium = 22
5 5 7 8

Hard = 3
2 6 8 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

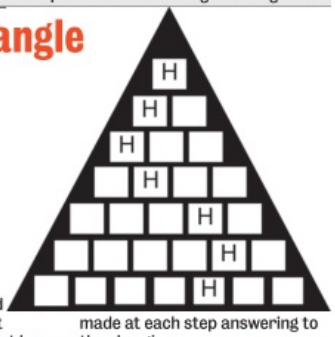
Differences: 1. Foot is turned. 2. Puddle is moved. 3. Toolbox handle is smaller. 4. Drawer is added. 5. Patch is added to sleeve. 6. Collar is different.

Riddler

Evil Tribbles may look cute, but they can really make a loud noise when they ROAR!!! A 1-foot tall Green Evil Tribble can register 10 GSU (Galactic Sound Units) on a sound-measuring device that is 5 feet away. Yellow Evil Tribbles are twice as loud, and Red Tribbles... THREE times as loud as their yellow counterparts! So anyway, one day Spork the Vulcan was out doing a bit of maintenance on the exterior of the Space Station, and before him he saw, to his fright, the biggest Evil Tribble he had ever seen. It was 5 feet high, 10 feet away and red! It looked straight at Spork, and gave the loudest ROAR it could!!! How many GSU did Spork's sound-measuring device register?

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number 1
2 Greeting
3 Not a miss
4 The thing here
5 Vision
6 Minor in degree
7 Disembarks

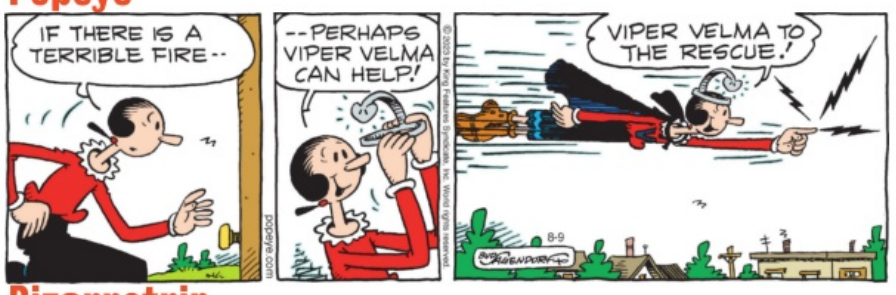


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

HAVE YOU SEEN THAT NEW DOLL?
IT'S CALLED "AMY THE AMMO CHICKEN"
WHAT'S IT DO?
YOU PULL HER STRING AND SHE LAYS AROUND
www.creators.com

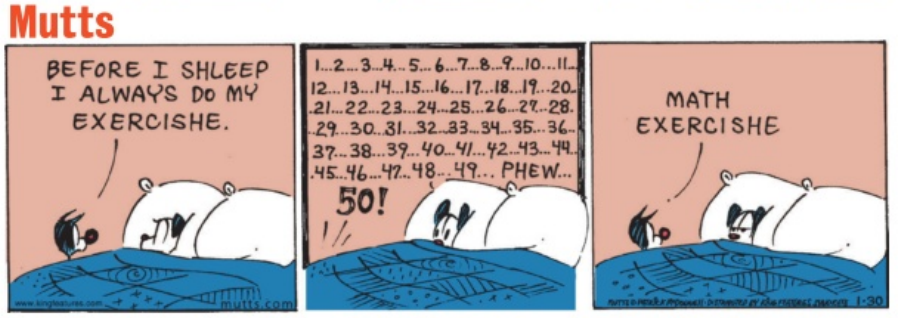
Hart of the city

KLAK!
KLAK!
WAIT, YOU'RE CLAPPING ON THE 1 AND 3, AND YOU NEED TO CLAP ON THE 2 AND 4.
IF MATH IS INVOLVED, I NEED TO WALK AWAY.
YOU HAVE TO JUMP IN SYNC WITH THE ROPE HITTING THE GROUND. TRY CLAPPING FIRST.
KLAK, CLAP, KLAK, CLAP.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT NETWORKING WITH OTHER AUTHORS TO SEE HOW THEY SET UP BOOKSTORE SIGNINGS?
I REALLY DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER AUTHORS...
ACTUALLY, YOU DO.
OR BOOKSTORE OWNERS...
I CAN HELP WITH THAT, TOO!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you are blessed by the moon, and you may hear good news from your sibling. You may spend time with family and friends. With the help of creativity, you may plan to renovate your house or office. You may start new partnerships with family members, which will be beneficial in the near future. Your subordinates at the office may help you in terms of the project.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel negative. Tasks remain incomplete, and you may be a victim of mood swings. Your patience may be tested many times, and silly mistakes may confuse you in completing your work. Lovebirds may find themselves confused in terms of feelings. More expectations may affect your emotional attachment to your spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents. Students may lose their concentration.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, the positive moon may help you feel happiness and peace of mind. You may work efficiently in your professional life, and your subordinates may cooperate with you to make some important decisions in the business. You may plan to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network, which may be beneficial for the growth of the business. It is advised to take proper rest to maintain your enthusiasm.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may have detachment from the responsibilities you have been given. You may also spend more on purchasing worthless items, which may increase negativity in the house or office. You are advised to keep an eye on your opponents and rivals, otherwise, you may become a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to read documents carefully before putting in your signature.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you may enjoy your family and professional life. You may become polite with the people around you, which may help in the smooth completion of your work. You may find some new sources of earnings, which may boost your savings. You may also plan to renovate your house or office.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may enjoy work, and you may get rewards after your hard work. Your social respect may increase now. Overworking your mind may make you tired, and due to your workload, you may not be able to reach some family events. Chronic health issues related to your parents may be cured now.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon, and you may be satisfied with your work. You may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your elders may likely show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may feel dull. It is advised to keep your mind cool, and it's a golden rule for you to think twice before doing any act. You may travel to recover your money, otherwise, you may lose your money. You are also advised to avoid going on adventure tours. Students are advised to go for in-depth study to achieve success.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon, and you may feel good. Domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential person who may help you get some benefits on the work front. You may perform well in your job, and you may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes in inherited property may likely settle down.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon, and you may be healthy. You may be able to focus on your goals, and your performance may be very good at work. Your boss may be happy with you, and you may get some important responsibilities at work. You may hear good news in any legal matter. You are likely to have control over your opponents and business rivals.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be more intellectual, and you may prefer gaining knowledge. You may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes you may control your short-temperedness, which may help you perform your tasks smoothly. There may be some chances of smooth earnings, which may give you comfort in the workflow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money on loved ones. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may feel negativity around you. You may find your responsibilities burdensome. You may be in a hurry to complete the tasks given to you, and you may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may slow down, which may affect your day-to-day work. Your projects may likely be delayed, affecting your ongoing projects. You are advised to seek advice from your elders before making any important decisions.

KIDZONE

Rutva Chandan, 4 Years, SISS Pre-Schol

Aarushi K M, 5 Years, Akshara Montessori Home

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√(√2⁻-8⁻2⁻16] =
√(√2⁻-8+16] =
√(√2⁻8] =
√(2⁻8)⁻1/2 =
√2⁻8/2 =
√2⁻4 = (2⁻4)⁻1/2 =
2⁻4/2
2⁻2 = 4

QUOTE UNCODE
To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old.

BULL'S EYE
bare, barge, bear, beggar, berg, brag, garb, GARBAGE, grab

FAST FIVE

W	H	E	R	E
R	E	L	A	X
U	M	A	M	I
N	A	T	E	S
G	L	E	E	T

STRIKE OUT

B	A	N	T	A	M	S
E	E	C	A	D	A	P
L	U	S	T	I	L	Y
G	T	D	I	N	G	
I	S	L	E	S	N	E
P	A	M	T	A	U	R
A	U	R	I	C	L	E
B	L	A	S	H	O	P
M	A	D	A	M	E	A
U	E	S	G	T	S	R
H	O	N	O	L	U	L
R	S	O	F	F	O	
Z	I	P	P	Y	D	E
M	A	Y	P	O	L	E
T	U	N	E		E	
R	L	O	H	R	L	
G	A	M	B	L	E	T
V	A	S	E	P	P	

QUICK

D	O	S	T	L	S	R
L	E	N	G	T	H	A
N	A	N	K	L	E	T
H	O	N	O	L	U	L
R	S	O	F	O		
Z	I	P	P	Y	D	E
M	A	Y	P	O	L	E
T	U	N	E		E	
R	L	O	H	R	L	
G	A	M	B	L	E	T
V	A	S	E	P	P	

MENSA PUZZLE
ABDGKP:
ABCDeFGhIjKlmnoP.

RIDDLER
0. The Tribble is on the outside of the Space Station and, because of the vacuum of space and the lack of air molecules to carry the sound, the GSU will not register a sound from 10 feet away.

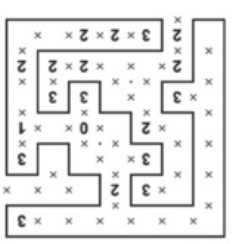
SUDOKU

9	5	1	3	4	2	8
7	6	4	5	1	8	2
8	2	3	7	9	6	4
6	9	7	8	5	4	3
1	8	5	2	7	3	6
2	1	6	9	3	7	5
3	7	9	4	8	5	1
5	4	8	6	2	1	9
4	3	2	1	6	9	7

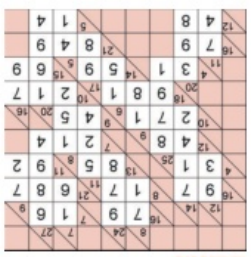
ALPHA TRIANGLE
H, Hi, Hit, This, Sight, Slight, Alights.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 4 + 3 + 4 = 16
Medium
5 x 7 – 8 – 5 = 22
Hard
2 + 6 / 8 x 3 = 3

LOOP



KAKURO



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 # Palme d'Or to Meryl Streep
Meryl Streep will receive an honorary Palme d'Or at the opening ceremony of the Cannes Film Festival on May 14, organisers said Thursday

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MEANT TO BE

Jyotika on her break from Hindi cinema

Jyotika made her comeback to Hindi cinema after almost 26 years with 'Shaitaan'. The actress was seen last in 'Doli Saja Ke Rakhna' (1998), after which she had a very successful career in South movies. She also took a break when she tied the knot with actor Suriya and embraced motherhood. Now post 'Shaitaan', Jyotika will be seen next in 'Srikanth Bolla' which stars Rajkummar Rao.

While talking to ETimes, Jyotika revealed if it was lack of good scripts which made her stay away from Hindi movies.

Responding to it, she told us in an exclusive chat, "Hindi cinema has always written good scripts for women - look at Tabu and Vidya Balan - most of their films are reference points for all the actresses. I think one of my favourites of Tabu ma'am is 'Chandni Bar'. There is no dearth in that. It was a misconception I think between both worlds where I drifted to the South and they thought I'm a South-Indian and I don't know Hindi. Or I got too busy there. I was meant to go there, meet the right man, marry him, do the right films. Today, that has got me here and now I'm doing some great work here. But I think Hindi cinema has always made good films."

> "I was meant to go there, meet the right man... I think Hindi cinema has always made good films

'Srikanth Bolla' is based on the journey of a visually challenged Indian industrialist and the founder of Bollant Industries. While Rajkummar plays the titular role, Jyotika essays the part of his teacher, who is largely responsible for motivating him and guiding him to be successful.
The film also stars Alaya F and is directed by Tushar Hiranandani."

—**Ankita Kanabar, ETimes**

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Style is her second name
Rashmika Mandanna's style file is a trendsetter in elegance and glamour

Picky? Not Sofia

Actress Sofia Vergara feels she can't be too "picky" about who she dates, as it is already hard for women over 50 to find someone.

Vergara, who parted ways with Joe Manganiello last year, remains open to the idea of dating another celebrity. "I mean, it's already hard for a 50-something-year-old woman to find someone. I'm not going to be now picky about, 'Oh, he can only be a doctor. Oh, he can only be an astronaut.' No, I mean, I'm not that picky," the actress told people.com, reports femalefirst.co.uk. The actress has learned that love can be a "tricky" thing. The Hollywood star, who married Joe in 2015, said: "You never know what the future is going to bring."

"You need to always give the best that you can, be the best person to the other person. Be there for them when they're going through the hardest time," she said.

—IANS

New role

The Gen-Z diva Janhvi Kapoor, who has turned a host for her childhood home in Chennai, owned by her mother, the late actress Sridevi, shared sweet memories of the residence, describing it as a special chapter in her mother's legacy.

Sridevi's home in Chennai has been listed on the vacation rental company Airbnb's under the category titled 'Icons'. Speaking at the launch event, Janhvi said: "I think this house symbolises such a special chapter in my mother's legacy and in all of our lives. It was her first major purchase once she started working and her 'prized possession' really."

The 'Dhadak' fame actress went on to narrate the sweetest memories of her childhood home, saying, "Growing up it was always like a theme in our lives, alright we are going to Chennai, and we have a city house, My mother loved the beach."

At her family's Chennai holiday home, Janhvi will be hosting two guests, providing access to one bedroom and bathroom.

"So what you can expect is very good energy, we have made a lot of special memories in that house, an amazing view, access to the beach, and just a nice place to relax and be with yourself," she added.

In the Airbnb property, guests can enjoy authentic South Indian cuisine, indulge in Janhvi's beauty secrets, and practice yoga with ocean views. It will be available from May 12.

—IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Pooja for Adhyaaya

A muhurat pooja for Adhyaaya was performed at a temple in Mahalakshmi Layout. Producer Shantha Jayaram sounded the clapboard while cinematographer-cum-producer Anaji Nagaraj switched on the camera for the muhurat shot. Prominent personalities of the film industry were present on the occasion.

Adhyaaya is bankrolled by Shantha Jayaram under the banner Jai Bhavani Creations while Samarth M is directing it. Chaitanya Banjara is playing the lead.

The movie is being made in Kannada and Banjara languages. It is about how tribal children are deprived of education and the ill-effects of illiteracy. According to Samarth, Adhyaaya will have all elements such as action, sentiment, suspense, and comedy to entertain audiences. The movie is expected to go on floors from May 10. It will be shot in locales at Bengaluru, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur.

Newcomers welcome

Many Kannada movies have been made by newcomers in recent years. Rana Rakshasa is joining the list. Though director Muraliprasad has helmed three movies, including one in Hindi, the movie features newcomers including theater artistes.

The movie, which received an A certificate from the Censor Board, is ready for release. The movie's poster was released on the occasion of producer H P Narasimha Swamy's birthday.

"I am not happy with the Censor Board authorities who refused to give a UA certificate. The movie has only three murder scenes. The Censor Board insisted that I remove one stating that it glorifies crime. I refused to remove it as it is the main element of the script," said Muraliprasad. The director said the movie belongs to the revenge and suspense thriller genre. "The movie revolves around a father and son who visit a village. An unexpected incident takes place at the village," the director said. Producer HP Narasimha Swamy, who plays the lead in the movie, said that his father, a theater artist, is an inspiration for him.